UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/661,131	09/12/2003	Jeffrey George	60518-160	7753

27305   7590   07/10/2007
HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.
THE PINEHURST OFFICE CENTER, SUITE #101
39400 WOODWARD AVENUE
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48304-5151

EXAMINER
HALL, ARTHUR O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3709	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
07/10/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/661,131	GEORGE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Arthur O. Hall	3709	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _25 March 2007_.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-69_ is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-69_ is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _12 September 2003_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)
1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _1/16/2004; 5/23/2005_.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☒ Other: _See Continuation Sheet_.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 6). Other: IDS: 11/29/2005; 3/25/2007-qty 3.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 1/16/2004, 5/23/2005,

11/29/2005 and 3/25/2007 (quantity of three) have been acknowledged by the

examiner.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4)

because reference character "24" has been used to designate both servlet and player

as disclosed in paragraphs 00133 and 00135 of the specification. Corrected drawing

sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to

avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should

include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if

only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of

an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New

Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner,

the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next

Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

In addition to Replacement Sheets containing the corrected drawing figure(s),

applicant is required to submit a marked-up copy of each Replacement Sheet including

annotations indicating the changes made to the previous version. The marked-up copy

must be clearly labeled as "Annotated Sheets" and must be presented in the

amendment or remarks section that explains the change(s) to the drawings. See 37

CFR 1.121(d)(1). Failure to timely submit the proposed drawing and marked-up copy

will result in the abandonment of the application.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the terms

player and servlet are disclosed in paragraphs 00133 and 00135 as having the same

reference character 24 as shown in Fig. 1 as described above. Further, the reference

character 198, fill detail, is not shown in the drawings. Additionally, the reference

character 200, jackpot detail, is also not shown in the drawings.

Appropriate correction is required.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created
doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the
unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent
and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory
obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims
are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct
from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated
by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140
F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29
USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir.
1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422
F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163
USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d)
may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory
double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to
be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of
activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a
terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with
37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-28 and 36-63 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-28, 33-59 and 61, respectively, of copending Application No. 10/661,140 (US Patent Application Publication 2004/0092305; George et al.). Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because every element of claims 1-28 and 36-63 are found in claims 1-28, 33-59 and 61, respectively, in the disclosure of Application No. 10/661,140.

Claims 1-28, 33-59 and 61 of Application No. 10/661,140 disclose every limitation of claims 1-28 and 36-63, respectively, of Application No. 10/661,131 with the exceptions of substantially reciting the retrieval of player information from the database, a request form, a device number associated with the gaming machine and player information being associated with the player playing the gaming machine. However, the claims recite returning information to the remote device in which a step of retrieving the data is commonly performed prior to returning or uplinking the data. Additionally, it is within the scope of the claims to use a request form in the place of an attendance form since both forms merely accept input information from the user. As well, the claim scope includes a device number associated with the gaming machine since the gaming machine recites sending gaming machine information to the database in which the gaming machine information commonly includes device number data. It is also within the claim scope to realize that the player information is associated with the player playing the gaming machine since the identification information for each player is unique.

Hence, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to

modify claims 1-28, 33-59 and 61 of Application No. 10/661,140 to provide reciting the

retrieval of player information from the database, a request form, a device number

associated with the gaming machine and player information being associated with the

player playing the gaming machine as recited in claims 1-28 and 36-63, respectively, of

Application No. 10/661,131.

The following claim charts show the claim-to-claim comparison between both

applications:

10/661,131	10/661,140
Claim 1: A remote system for use with a gaming system, the gaming system for implementing a player tracking system and having at least one electronic gaming machine playable by a player, a host computer coupled to the at least one electronic gaming machine by a network, the host computer including a database for maintaining the player tracking system, the remote system comprising: a remote device for receiving identification information input by a user; and, a remote network interface coupled to the remote device for receiving the identification information from the remote device, retrieving player information from the database as a function of the identification information, and returning the player information to	**Claim 1**: A remote system for use with a gaming system, the gaming system having gaming machine playable by a player and having gaming machine at least one information associated with the at least one gaming machine, a host computer coupled to the at least one gaming machine by a network, the host computer including a database for maintaining the player attendance information, the remote system comprising: a remote device for receiving identification information input by a user; and, a remote network interface coupled to the remote device for receiving the identification information from the remote device, sending gaming machine information from the gaming machine to the database for storing the gaming machine information as a function of the

the remote device.	identification information, and returning the player attendance information to the remote device (it would have been obvious at the time of invention to retrieve player information from the database since the claim recites returning information to the remote device below in which a step of retrieving the data is commonly performed prior to returning or uplinking the data).
Claim 2: A remote system, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the remote device is coupled to the remote network interface by a wireless connection.	**Claim 2**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the remote device is coupled to the remote network interface by a wireless connection.
Claim 3: A remote system, as set forth in claim 2, wherein the wireless connection uses an IEEE 802.11 standard.	**Claim 3**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 2, wherein the wireless connection uses an IEEE 802.11 standard.
Claim 4: A remote system, as set forth in claim 3, wherein the wireless connection is IEEE 802.1 lb.	**Claim 4**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 3, wherein the wireless connection is IEEE 802.11b.
Claim 5: A remote system, as set forth in claim 3, wherein the wireless connection is IEEE 802.11 g.	**Claim 5**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 3, wherein the wireless connection is IEEE 802.11g.
Claim 6: A remote system, as set forth in claim 1, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with the user.	**Claim 6**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 1, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with the user.
Claim 7: A remote system, as set forth in claim 6, the web client for acquiring input from the user and formatting and presenting data to the user.	**Claim 7**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 6, the web client for acquiring input from the user and formatting and presenting data to the user.
Claim 8: A remote system, as set forth in claim 1, the remote network interface for sending a request form to the remote device.	**Claim 8**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 1, the remote network interface for sending an attendance form to the remote device (it would have been obvious at the time of invention to use a request form in

Claim 9: A remote system, as set forth in claim 8, the request form being tillable with the identification information by the user.

Claim 10: A remote system, as set forth in claim 9, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the request form being accessible through the web client.

Claim 11: A remote system, as set forth in claim 10, the request form accepting the identification information.

Claim 12: A remote system, as set forth in claim 11, the identification information including one of an identification card number and a device number associated with the electronic gaming machine.

Claim 13: A remote system, as set forth in claim 11, the identification information including an identification card number, the remote network interface for receiving the identification card number and determining if the identification card number is valid.

Claim 14: A remote system, as set forth in claim 13, the remote network interface for retrieving the player information from the database if the identification card number is valid.

---

the place of an attendance form since both forms merely accept input information from the user).

Claim 9: A remote system, as set forth in claim 8, the attendance form being tillable with the identification information by the user.

Claim 10: A remote system, as set forth in claim 9, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the attendance form being accessible through the web client.

Claim 11: A remote system, as set forth in claim 10, the attendance form accepting the identification information.

Claim 12: A remote system, as set forth in claim 11, the identification information including an identification card number (it would have been obvious at the time of invention to include a device number associated with the gaming machine since the gaming machine recites sending gaming machine information to the database in which the gaming machine information commonly includes device number data).

Claim 13: A remote system, as set forth in claim 11, the identification information including an identification card number, the remote network interface for receiving the identification card number and determining if the identification card number is valid.

Claim 14: A remote system, as set forth in claim 13, the remote network interface for sending the gaming machine information to the database for storing as a function of the identification information

	if the identification card number is valid (it would have been obvious at the time of invention to retrieve player information from the database since the claim recites returning information to the remote device below in which a step of retrieving the data is commonly performed prior to returning or uplinking the data).
Claim 15: A remote system as set forth in claim 13, further comprising a card reader connected to the remote device, the card reader for reading the identification card number from a player identification card.	**Claim 15**: A remote system as set forth in claim 13, further comprising a card reader connected to the remote device, the card reader for reading the identification card number from a player identification card.
Claim 16: A remote system, as set forth in claim 11, the identification information including a device identification number associated with the electronic gaming machine.	**Claim 16**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 11, remote network interface for determining if the identification information is valid, the gaming machine information including a device identification number associated with the gaming machine if the identification information is valid.
Claim 17: A remote system, as set forth in claim 16, the remote network interface for receiving the device identification number and retrieving player information from the database as a function of the device identification number, the player information associated with the player playing the electronic gaming machine.	**Claim 17**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 16, the remote network interface for receiving the device identification number and retrieving the player attendance information from the database as a function of the device identification number (it would have been obvious at the time of invention to realize that the player information is associated with the player playing the gaming machine since the identification information for each player is unique).
Claim 18: A remote system, as set forth in claim 1, the remote network interface coupled to the database for retrieving and storing data therein.	**Claim 18**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 1, the remote network interface coupled to the database for retrieving and storing data therein.
Claim 19: A remote system, as set forth in claim 18, the database for storing data in database tables.	**Claim 19**: A remote system, as set forth

	in claim 18, the database for storing data in database tables.
Claim 20: A remote system, as set forth in claim 19, further comprising a plurality of first data object coupled to the database tables for retrieving and storing data in the database tables.	**Claim 20**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 19, further comprising a plurality of first data object coupled to the database tables for retrieving and storing data in the database tables.
Claim 21: A remote system, as set forth in claim 20, further comprising at least one second data object coupled to the first data objects for assembling multiple first data objects into a third data object.	**Claim 21**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 20, further comprising at least one second data object coupled to the first data objects for assembling multiple first data objects into a third data object.
Claim 22: A remote system, as set forth in claim 21, the third object coupled to the remote network interface for receiving queries from the remote network interface, retrieving responsive data from the database, formatting the responsive data and returning the responsive data to the remote network interface.	**Claim 22**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 21, the third object coupled to the remote network interface for receiving queries from the remote network interface, retrieving responsive data from the database, formatting the responsive data and returning the responsive data to the remote network interface.
Claim 23: A remote system, as set forth in claim 22, the remote network interface for receiving the responsive data and transmitting the responsive data to the remote device.	**Claim 23**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 22, the remote network interface for receiving the responsive data and transmitting the responsive data to the remote device.
Claim 24: A remote system, as set forth in claim 23, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the remote network interface for formatting the responsive data into a hyper text mark-up language response for display by the web client.	**Claim 24**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 23, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the remote network interface for formatting the responsive data into a hyper text mark-up language response for display by the web client.
Claim 25: A remote system, as set forth in claim 6, the web client including a plurality of servlets for providing functionality to a user.	**Claim 25**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 6, the web client including a plurality of servlets for providing functionality to a user.
Claim 26: A remote system, as set forth	

in claim 25, the web client including a login layer for identifying the user. **Claim 27**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 26, the web client including a menu layer for allowing the user to navigate to and access the servlets. **Claim 28**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 27, the user having an assigned type, the menu layer for allowing accessing to servlets and restricting access to servlets as a function of the assigned type.	**Claim 26**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 25, the web client including a login layer for identifying the user. **Claim 27**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 26, the web client including a menu layer for allowing the user to navigate to and access the servlets. **Claim 28**: A remote system, as set forth in claim 27, the user having an assigned type, the menu layer for allowing accessing to servlets and restricting access to servlets as a function of the assigned type.

10/661,131	10/661,140
Claim 36: A method using a remote device for retrieving information related to a player in a player tracking system for use with a gaming system, the gaming system including at least one electronic gaming machine playable by the player and a host computer coupled to the at least one electronic gaming machine by a network, the host computer including a database for maintaining the player tracking system, the method including the steps of: receiving identification information at the remote device; receiving the identification information from the remote device at the host computer; and, retrieving player information from the database as a function of the identification information.	**Claim 33**: A method using a remote device for retrieving player attendance information related to a player for use with a gaming system, the gaming system including at least one gaming machine playable by the player and a host computer coupled to the at least one gaming machine by a network, the host computer including a database for maintaining the player attendance information, the method including the steps of: receiving identification information at the remote device; receiving the identification information from the remote device at the host computer; (it would have been obvious at the time of invention to retrieve player information from the database since the claim recites returning information to the remote device

	below in which a step of retrieving the data is commonly performed prior to returning or uplinking the data)
	sending gaming machine information from the gaming machine to the database or storing the gaming machine information as a function of the identification information; and,
	returning the player attendance information to the remote device.
Claim 37: A method, as set forth in claim 36, the gaming system having a remote network interface for coupling the remote device to the host computer, the method including the step of providing a wireless connection between the remote device and the remote network interface.	**Claim 34**: A method, as set forth in claim 33, the gaming system having a remote network interface for coupling the remote device to the host computer, the method including the step of providing a wireless connection between the remote device and the remote network interface.
Claim 38: A method, as set forth in claim 37, wherein the wireless connection uses an IEEE 802.11 standard.	**Claim 35**: A method, as set forth in claim 34, wherein the wireless connection uses an IEEE 802.11 standard.
Claim 39: A method, as set forth in claim 38, wherein the wireless connection is IEEE 802.11b.	**Claim 36**: A method, as set forth in claim 35, wherein the wireless connection is IEEE 802.11b.
Claim 40: A method, as set forth in claim 38, wherein the wireless connection is IEEE 802.11g.	**Claim 37**: A method, as set forth in claim 35, wherein the wireless connection is IEEE 802.11g.
Claim 41: A method, as set forth in claim 36, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the method including the steps of: acquiring input via the web client from the user; and, formatting and presenting data to the user.	**Claim 38**: A method, as set forth in claim 33, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the method including the steps of: acquiring input via the web client from the user; and, formatting and presenting data to the user.

Claim 42: A method, as set forth in claim 36, the method including the step of sending a request form by the remote network interface to the remote device.	**Claim 39**: A method, as set forth in claim 33, the method including the step of sending an attendance form by the remote network interface to the remote device (it would have been obvious at the time of invention to use a request form in the place of an attendance form since both forms merely accept input information from the user).
Claim 43: A method, as set forth in claim 42, the request form being tillable with the identification information by a user.	**Claim 40**: A method, as set forth in claim 39, the attendance form being tillable with the identification information by a user.
Claim 44: A method, as set forth in claim 43, the request form being accessible through a web client.	**Claim 41**: A method, as set forth in claim 40, the attendance form being accessible through a web client.
Claim 45: A method, as set forth in claim 44, the method including the step of accepting by the request form the identification information.	**Claim 42**: A method, as set forth in claim 41, the method including the step of accepting by the attendance form the identification information.
Claim 46: A method, as set forth in claim 45, the identification information including one of an identification card number and a device number associated with the electronic gaming machine.	**Claim 43**: A method, as set forth in claim 42, the identification information including an identification card number (it would have been obvious at the time of invention to include a device number associated with the gaming machine since the gaming machine recites sending gaming machine 1-28 and 36-63, respectively, of Application No. 10/661,131 to the database in which the gaming machine information commonly includes device number data).
Claim 47: A method, as set forth in claim 45, the identification information including an identification card number, the method including the steps of receiving the identification card number by the remote network interface and determining if the identification card	**Claim 44**: A method, as set forth in claim 42, the identification information including an identification card number, the method including the steps of receiving the identification card number by the remote network interface and determining if the identification card number is valid.

number is valid.

Claim 48: A method, as set forth in claim 47, the method including the steps of retrieving the player information from the database if the identification card number is valid.

Claim 45: A method, as set forth in claim 44, the method including the step of sending the gaming machine information to the database for storing as a function of the identification information if the identification card number is valid (it would have been obvious at the time of invention to retrieve player information from the database since the claim recites returning information to the remote device below in which a step of retrieving the data is commonly performed prior to returning or uplinking the data).

Claim 49: A method as set forth in claim 47, the remote device having a card reader, the method including the step of reading the identification card number from a player identification card by the card reader.

Claim 46: A method as set forth in claim 44, the remote device having a card reader, the method including the step of reading the identification card number from a player identification card by the card reader.

Claim 50: A method, as set forth in claim 47, the identification information including a device identification number associated with the electronic gaming machine.

Claim 47: A method, as set forth in claim 44, the identification information including a device identification number associated with the gaming machine.

Claim 51: A method, as set forth in claim 50, including the steps of receiving the device identification number at the remote network interface and retrieving player information from the database as a function of the device identification number, the player information associated with the player playing the electronic gaming machine.

Claim 48: A method, as set forth in claim 47, including the steps of receiving the device identification number at the remote network interface and retrieving player attendance information from the database as a function of the device identification number, the player attendance information associated with the player playing the gaming machine.

Claim 52: A method, as set forth in claim 36, the remote network interface coupled to the database for retrieving and storing data therein.

Claim 49: A method, as set forth in claim 33, the remote network interface coupled to the database for retrieving and storing data therein.

Claim 53: A method, as set forth in claim 52, the database for storing data in database tables.	**Claim 50**: A method, as set forth in claim 49, the database for storing data in database tables.
Claim 54: A method, as set forth in claim 53, including the step of providing a plurality of first data object coupled to the database tables for retrieving and storing data in the database tables.	**Claim 51**: A method, as set forth in claim 50, including the step of providing a plurality of first data object coupled to the database tables for retrieving and storing data in the database tables.
Claim 55: A method, as set forth in claim 54, including the step of providing at least one second data object coupled to the first data objects for assembling multiple first data objects into a third data object.	**Claim 52**: A method, as set forth in claim 51, including the step of providing at least one second data object coupled to the first data objects for assembling multiple first data objects into a third data object.
Claim 56: A method, as set forth in claim 55, the third object coupled to the remote network interface, the method including the step of receiving queries from the remote network interface at the third object, retrieving responsive data from the database, formatting the responsive data and returning the responsive data to the remote network interface.	**Claim 53**: A method, as set forth in claim 52, the third object coupled to the remote network interface, the method including the step of receiving queries from the remote network interface at the third object, retrieving responsive data from the database, formatting the responsive data and returning the responsive data to the remote network interface.
Claim 57: A method, as set forth in claim 56, including the steps of receiving the responsive data and transmitting the responsive data to the remote device.	**Claim 54**: A method, as set forth in claim 53, including the steps of receiving the responsive data and transmitting the responsive data to the remote device.
Claim 58: A method, as set forth in claim 57, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the method including the step of formatting the responsive data, at the remote network interface, into a hyper text mark-up language response for display by the web client.	**Claim 55**: A method, as set forth in claim 54, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the method including the step of formatting the responsive data, at the remote network interface, into a hyper text mark-up language response for display by.the web client.
Claim 59: A method, as set forth in	**Claim 56**: A method, as set forth in claim

claim 41 the web client including a plurality of servlets for providing functionality to a user.	38 the web client including a plurality of servlets for providing functionality to a user.
Claim 60: A method, as set forth in claim 59, the web client including a login layer for identifying the user.	**Claim 57**: A method, as set forth in claim 56, the web client including a login layer for identifying the user.
Claim 61: A method, as set forth in claim 60, the web client including a menu layer for allowing the user to navigate to and access the servlets.	**Claim 58**: A method, as set forth in claim 57, the web client including a menu layer for allowing the user to navigate to and access the servlets.
Claim 62: A method, as set forth in claim 61, the user having an assigned type, the menu layer for allowing accessing to servlets and restricting access to servlets as a function of the assigned type.	**Claim 59**: A method, as set forth in claim 58, the user having an assigned type, the menu layer for allowing accessing to servlets and restricting access to servlets as a function of the assigned type.
Claim 63: A method, as set forth in claim 36, wherein the player information includes a player name.	**Claim 61**: A method, as set forth in claim 33, wherein the player information includes a player name.

This is a <u>provisional</u> obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the

conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 12-15, 18-19, 29, 46-49, 52-53 and 63 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Saunders et al. (US Patent 6,012,832; hereinafter

Saunders). Figures are described with reference characters where necessary for clarity.

Regarding claim 1,

a remote system for use with a gaming system, the gaming system for
implementing a player tracking system and having at least one electronic gaming
machine playable by a player, a host computer coupled to the at least one electronic
gaming machine by a network, the host computer including a database for maintaining
the player tracking system (column 3, lines 12-28, Saunders; devices are coupled to an
central computer and/or gaming machine via a network), comprises:

a remote device for receiving identification information input by a user (column 6,
lines 13-21 and 41-45 and Fig. 1, 10 and Fig. 6, 660, Saunders; the device receives the
player card having identification information thereon); and,

a remote network interface coupled to the remote device (column 6, lines 45-53
and Fig. 1, 60, Saunders) for receiving the identification information from the remote
device (column 7, lines 1-9, Saunders; information is received so as to be stored in the
memory of the device and on the gaming machine or central computer), retrieving
player information from the database as a function of the identification information
(column 7, lines 5 and 10-24, Saunders; player information is retrieved from memory,
either on the device or gaming machine or central computer, that is a database for
storing data for the purpose of verification), and returning the player information to the
remote device (column 7, lines 25-52, column 8, lines 5-22 and Fig. 7, 70, 700, 710,
Saunders; the gaming machine sends or returns to the device microprocessor
information regarding validity of the player's data that is stored in device memory or
memory on the gaming machine or central computer as compared with information on
the player card).

Regarding claim 12, the identification information including one of an
identification card number and a device number associated with the electronic gaming
machine (column 8, lines 5-13, Saunders; a player ID number or identification card
number and player PIN or device number used for identifying the gaming machine that

the player is playing).

Regarding claim 13, the identification information including an identification card number, the remote network interface for receiving the identification card number and determining if the identification card number is valid (column 8, lines 14-22, Saunders).

Regarding claim 14, the remote network interface for retrieving the player information from the database if the identification card number is valid (column 7, lines 9-24, Saunders).

Regarding claim 15, further comprising a card reader connected to the remote device, the card reader for reading the identification card number from a player identification card (column 6, lines 13-21, Saunders).

Regarding claim 18, the remote network interface coupled to the database for retrieving and storing data therein (column 7, lines 1-8, Saunders).

Regarding claim 19, the database for storing data in database tables (column 7, line 5, Saunders).

Regarding claim 29, the player information includes a player name (column 8, lines 5-8, Saunders).

Regarding claim 36, the scope of the claim is substantially the same as claim 1 above with the only difference being that claim 1 is an apparatus claim and claim 36 is a process claim.

Regarding claims 46-49, the scope of the claims is substantially the same as claims 12-15 above with the only difference being that claims 12-15 are apparatus claims and claims 46-49 are process claims.

Regarding claims 52-53, the scope of the claims is substantially the same as claims 18-19 above with the only difference being that claims 18-19 are apparatus claims and claims 52-53 are process claims.

Regarding claim 63, the scope of the claim is substantially the same as claim 29 above with the only difference being that claim 29 is an apparatus claim and claim 63 is a process claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham* v. *John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.

    4.   Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 2-5 and 37-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saunders in view of Crumby (US Patent 6,875,110). Figures are described with reference characters where necessary for clarity.

Saunders substantially teaches features of the claimed invention as described above.

However, Saunders does not substantially teach wireless communication as claimed. Therefore, attention is directed to Crumby, which teaches

Regarding claim 2, the remote device is coupled to the remote network interface by a wireless connection (column 11, lines 57-67, Crumby).

Crumby suggests that a device that eliminates the complexity of communication networks for providing network gaming services will remove the barrier to increasing the number of those network gaming services, namely player tracking, bonus games, progressive games and cashless ticketing (column 2, lines 19-30, Crumby).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicant's invention was made to modify Saunders in view of the teachings of Crumby for the purpose of providing the remote system for use with a gaming device of Saunders having wired communication features that are interchangeable with or upgradeable to the wireless features of Crumby in order to eliminate the complexity of

communication networks so as to remove the barrier to increasing the number of network gaming services.

Regarding claims 3-5, the wireless connection uses an IEEE 802.11, 802.11 b or 802.11 g standard (column 12, lines 1-6, Crumby; it would have been obvious at the time of invention to use IEEE 802.11 standards for wireless communication).

Regarding claims 37-40, the scope of the claims is substantially the same as claims 2-5 above with the only difference being that claims 2-5 are apparatus claims and claims 37-40 are process claims.

Claims 6-11 and 41-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saunders in view of Fin et al. (US Patent 6,240,444; hereinafter Fin). Figures are described with reference characters where necessary for clarity.

Saunders substantially teaches features of the claimed invention as described above.

However, Saunders does not substantially teach the remote device with a processor and user interactive web client as claimed. Therefore, attention is directed to Fin, which teaches

Regarding claim 6, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with the user (column 4, lines 32-43, column 4, line 63 to column 5, line 7 and Fig. 1, 150, Fin; client computers inherently having processor to function utilize a web page for communication with users).

Fin suggests that a device that enables simultaneous collaboration between users of a web page on a web client will remove the facility and expense of having to use another communication means in order to coordinate web browsing (column 2, lines 6-55, Fin).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicant's invention was made to modify Saunders in view of the teachings of Fin for the purpose of providing the remote system for use with a gaming device of Saunders having local area network communication features that are interchangeable with or upgradeable to the processor and web client features of Fin in order to provide simultaneous web page collaboration so as to eliminate the facility and expense of using another communication means to coordinate web browsing.

Regarding claim 7, the web client for acquiring input from the user and formatting and presenting data to the user (column 6, lines 12-24, Fin; a user interface for data input from the user processes the input data and redirects the data for web sharing).

Regarding claim 8, the remote network interface for sending a request form to the remote device (column 6, lines 40-53 and column 19, lines 34-53, Fin).

Regarding claim 9, the request form being fillable with the identification information by the user (column 7, lines 45-53 and column 19, lines 34-53, Fin).

Regarding claim 10, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the request form being accessible through the web client (column 7, line 54 to column 8, line 8 and column 19, lines 34-53, Fin).

Regarding claim 11, the request form accepting the identification information (column 19, lines 34-53, Fin; account information is input into the form).

Regarding claims 41-45, the scope of the claims is substantially the same as claims 6-11 above with the only difference being that claims 6-11 are apparatus claims and claims 41-45 are process claims.

Claims 16-17 and 50-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saunders in view of Fin, and even further in view of Sarbin et al. (US Patent 5,179,517; hereinafter Sarbin). Figures are described with reference characters where necessary for clarity.

Saunders alone or in combination with Fin substantially teaches features of the claimed invention as described above.

However, Saunders alone or in combination with Fin does not substantially teach a device identification number of the gaming machine as claimed. Therefore, attention is directed to Sarbin, which teaches

Regarding claim 16, the identification information including a device identification number associated with the electronic gaming machine (column 8, lines 6-62 and Fig. 6, 120 and 122, Sarbin; a second memory includes data fields associated with a particular gaming machine).

Sarbin suggests that a device that automates the accumulation of data for individual players with or without regard to accounting and security information will be

desirable to gaming proprietors as an effective marketing technique in order to obtain

and retain players (column 1, lines 11-30, Sarbin).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the applicant's invention was made to modify Saunders in view of the teachings of

Fin, and further in view of the teachings of Sarbin for the purpose of exchanging the

interchangeable or upgradeable identification information features of Saunders alone or

in combination with Fin with the player and device identification information features of

Sarbin in order to provide gaming proprietors with an effective marketing technique for

subscription and retention of players.

Regarding claim 17, the remote network interface for receiving the device

identification number and retrieving player information from the database as a function

of the device identification number, the player information associated with the player

playing the electronic gaming machine (column 8, lines 6-62 and Fig. 6, 90, 120 and

122, Sarbin; a first memory including data fields for player information facilitates storage

and retrieval of the player information in conjunction with device data of the gaming

machine stored in and retrieved from the second memory).

Regarding claims 50-51, the scope of the claims is substantially the same as

claims 16-17 above with the only difference being that claims 16-17 are apparatus

claims and claims 50-51 are process claims.

Claims 20-23 and 54-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Saunders in view of Rowe (US Patent 7,162,036). Figures are

described with reference characters where necessary for clarity.

Saunders substantially teaches features of the claimed invention as described

above.

However, Saunders does not substantially teach data objects as claimed.

Therefore, attention is directed to Rowe, which teaches

Regarding claim 20, a plurality of first data object coupled to the database tables

for retrieving and storing data in the database tables (column 3, lines 37-50, column 5,

lines 8-58, column 7, lines 1-10 and column 8, lines 42-59, Rowe; plural object data are

coupled to files for retrieval and storage of player tracking information).

Rowe suggests that a device that utilizes data objects to link gaming jurisdictions

and allow for small portions of software to be upgraded rather than the entire software

application will account for the differences between gaming rules of different gaming·

jurisdictions so as to eliminate time consuming and inefficient customization of each

gaming jurisdiction individually (column 2, lines 11-36, Rowe).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the applicant's invention was made to modify Saunders in view of the teachings of

Rowe for the purpose of providing the gaming device of Saunders having data transfer

and retrieval features that are interchangeable with or upgradeable to the data object

features of Rowe in order to link gaming jurisdictions via use of smaller portions of

upgradeable software to remove time consuming and inefficient customization of each

gaming jurisdiction individually.

Regarding claim 21, at least one second data object coupled to the first data

objects for assembling multiple first data objects into a third data object (column 8, line

60 to column 9, line 14, Rowe; plural objects generated as object signatures are

combined to form gaming application objects generated as gaming application

signatures).

Regarding claim 22, the third object coupled to the remote network interface for

receiving queries from the remote network interface, retrieving responsive data from the

database, formatting the responsive data and returning the responsive data to the

remote network interface (column 9, lines 15-49, Rowe; the gaming network is

accessed or queried via a gaming machine for retrieving objects or software modules

associated with game data).

Regarding claim 23, the remote network interface for receiving the responsive

data and transmitting the responsive data to the remote device (column 9, lines 15-49,

Rowe; object data is retrieved and stored).

Regarding claims 54-57, the scope of the claims is substantially the same as

claims 20-23 above with the only difference being that claims 20-23 are apparatus

claims and claims 54-57 are process claims.

Claims 24-28 and 58-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Saunders in view of Rowe, and even further in view of Fin. Figures

are described with reference characters where necessary for clarity.

Saunders alone or in combination with Rowe substantially teaches features of the claimed invention as described above.

However, Saunders alone or in combination with Rowe does not substantially teach web client functionality as claimed. Therefore, attention is directed to Fin, which teaches

Regarding claim 24, the remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction with a user, the remote network interface for formatting the responsive data into a hyper text mark-up language response for display by the web client (column 15, lines 7-19, Fin).

Fin suggests that a device that enables simultaneous collaboration between users of a web page on a web client will remove the facility and expense of having to use another communication means in order to coordinate web browsing (column 2, lines 6-55, Fin).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicant's invention was made to modify Saunders in view of the teachings of Rowe, and further in view of the teachings of Fin for the purpose of exchanging the interchangeable or upgradeable local area network communication features of Saunders alone or in combination with Rowe with the web client functionality features of Fin in order to in order to provide simultaneous web page collaboration so as to eliminate the facility and expense of using another communication means to coordinate web browsing.

Regarding claim 25, the web client including a plurality of servlets for providing
functionality to a user (column 12, lines 40-43, Fin; a web documents act as plural
servlets allowing a user to access data via programs).

Regarding claim 26, the web client including a login layer for identifying the user
(column 12, lines 44-47, Fin; it obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention that the account number as input data is used for login since this functionality
is common to banking systems for security reasons).

Regarding claim 27, the web client including a menu layer for allowing the user to
navigate to and access the servlets (column 12, line 57 to column 13, line 19, Fin; child
windows and web document windows allow the user to retrieve and store or exchange
data or information with applications on the system).

Regarding claim 28, the user having an assigned type, the menu layer for
allowing accessing to servlets and restricting access to servlets as a function of the
assigned type (column 13, lines 19-33, Fin; an order number for windows are assigned
based on a hierarchy of windows).

Regarding claims 58-62, the scope of the claims is substantially the same as
claims 24-28 above with the only difference being that claims 24-28 are apparatus
claims and claims 58-62 are process claims.

Claims 30-35 and 64-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being
unpatentable over Saunders.

Regarding claims 30-35, Saunders teaches that a player name is printed on a
ticket or voucher based on information obtained from a player card for the purposes of

tracking player information or venue information for security, game play and cash-in or

cash-out of game funds (column 8, lines 6-34, Saunders). Consequently, a player

address, patron host name, anniversary dates and meters for tracking bonus points as

part of player information and incentive points, credits, cashable and non-cashable

points as part of player bonus points are information commonly needed or required to

maintain a gaming business.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the applicant's invention was made to modify Saunders to include other player and

venue information in conjunction with player name information in order to maintain the

gaming business via means of tracking system data.

Regarding claims 64-69, the scope of the claims is substantially the same as

claims 30-35 above with the only difference being that claims 30-35 are apparatus

claims and claims 64-69 are process claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

F US-4,593,904, Graves

G US-2002/0002075 A1, Rowe

H US-2002/0115487 A1, Wells

I US-6,676,522 B2, Rowe et al.

J US-6,682,421 B1, Rowe et al.

K US-6,682,182 B1, Rowe et al.

L US-6,758,393 B1, Luciano et al.

M US-7,033,276 B2, Walker et al..

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arthur O. Hall whose telephone number is (571) 270-1814. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:00am - 5:00 pm, Alt Fri, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Jackson can be reached on (571) 272-4697. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AH
6/26/2007

GARY JACKSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

7/5/07